

REMARKS

Specification

Applicants submit the priority application and drawings as originally filed and have made amendments as summarized below.

The Cross-Reference to Related Applications section has been amended to identify the application as a Divisional application, which claims priority from copending U.S. application 10/055,094.

Amendments have been made to incorporate the changes made in the parent application to paragraphs beginning on page 3, line 15; page 3, line 20; page 6, line 26; page 6, line 28; page 7, line 9; and page 8, line 24.

The Abstract section of the application has been amended to conform to the method claims of this divisional application.

Drawings

FIG. 2 – Prior Art has been amended to delete the characters “Re” on the right side. No new matter has been added. An annotated marked up drawing is included on the last page of this document.

Claims

Applicants have amended the originally filed parent application by canceling claims 1-10, 15, and 26. Amendments have been made to claims 11, 16, 22, and 27, to conform the currently presented claims with the allowed claims in the parent application.

New claims 34-42 have been added to conform with the additional allowed claims in the parent patent application.

No amendment is related to the statutory requirements of patentability or for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim within the meaning of *Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kinzoku Kogyo Kabushiki Co. Ltd.*, No. 95-1066 (Fed. Cir. September 26, 2003).

No new matter has been added.

Conclusion

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request entry of the amended changes. Allowance of claims 11-14, 16-25, and 27-42 at an early date is solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including any extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-0374 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



Mikio Ishimaru
Registration No. 27,449

The Law Offices of Mikio Ishimaru
1110 Sunnyvale-Saratoga Rd., Suite A1
Sunnyvale, CA 94087
Telephone: (408) 738-0592
Fax: (408) 738-0881
March 18, 2004

NOTE: ANNOTATED MARKED UP DRAWINGS FOLLOW